
ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES

FISHERY UPDATE



Cora Campbell, Commissioner
Jeff Regnart, Director



Contact:
Troy Thynes or Kevin Clark
Phone: (907) 772-3801
Tom Kowalske (Wrangell)
Phone: (907) 874-3822

Petersburg Area Office
16 Sing Lee Ally
Petersburg, Alaska 99983
Date: April 10, 2013
Time: 2:00 p.m.

PETERSBURG/WRANGELL HERRING UPDATE #4

The department conducted an aerial survey today Wednesday, April 10, of Ernest Sound and vicinity between 10:15 a.m. and 11:30 a.m. The survey conditions were fair with partly cloudy skies, occasional snow showers, and northwest winds at 10 to 20 knots.

Ernest Sound

No herring schools or herring spawn were observed. There was very little change of predator activity in the area between Vixen Inlet and Union Bay with 43 sea lions observed. However, there was an increase in fishery activity in the Vixen Inlet area. Herring have been reported in shallow water and are being tested for maturity. With active fishing occurring, herring may be introduced into pounds at any time. Department personnel will be departing for the fishing grounds tomorrow morning on board the F/V Sea Hunt to monitor the fishing activity and to collect herring samples.

Future updates will be sporadic until department personnel return from Ernest Sound. The next aerial survey is scheduled to occur Friday, April 12.

Hobart Bay/Port Houghton

No surveys have occurred in 2013 for the Hobart/Port Houghton area. The first aerial survey is scheduled for the week of April 15.

2013 Herring Summary

Ernest Sound

April 1 Fishery opens for pound fishery.
April 3 1st survey. No herring activity, 45 sea lions.
April 5 No herring activity, 40 sea lions.
April 8 No herring activity, 61 sea lions.
April 10 No herring activity, 43 sea lions, fishery activity increasing.

Hobart Bay/Port Houghton

April 16 1st scheduled aerial survey.

Pilots and Mariners transiting Ernest Sound or Hobart/Port Houghton are asked to report any herring activity or congregations of sea lions to the Wrangell or Petersburg Fish and Game offices.

Petersburg/Wrangell herring updates will be posted on the ADF&G web site listed below.

News releases web site: <http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=cfnews.main>.

<i>Office</i>	<i>Ketchikan</i>	<i>Petersburg</i>	<i>Wrangell</i>	<i>Sitka</i>	<i>Juneau</i>	<i>Haines</i>	<i>Hoonah</i>	<i>Yakutat</i>
<i>ADF&G</i>	225-5195	772-3801	874-3822	747-6688	465-4250	766-2830		784-3255
<i>AWT</i>	225-5111	772-3983	874-3215	747-3254	465-4000	766-2533	945-3620	784-3220